

THE GATEWAY

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MacEwan accredited as university

BRENT PUCHALSKI
News Writer

Grant MacEwan was officially transitioned from a college to an accredited university on September 24, making it the second Albertan institution to make the jump this month and bringing the provincial count to six accredited institutions.

Though the institution has had the status to grant bachelor degrees since 2004, the ceremony made it official. Premier Ed Stelmach and Minister of Advanced Education and Technology Doug Horner, along with staff and students attended the event. It's hoped that this new title will heighten the prestige and international reputation of MacEwan, while remaining focused on teaching. This announcement came right on the heels of Calgary's Mount Royal becoming a university on September 3.

This change was made possible by an amendment to the Post-secondary Learning Act, which allows baccalaureate granting institutions to request to incorporate the term "university" into their name. This change is cosmetic for now, as there are no plans to develop graduate programs or a heightened research focus.

"This is just a name change. [It] doesn't change what our focus is. This just adds one more level of awesome," said Nils Holmgren, President of the Student Association at Grant MacEwan.

The change to "university" may be merely cosmetic, but the institution still has ambitious plans in wake of the change.

PLEASE SEE **MACEWAN** ♦ PAGE 3



MATHEW LETERSKY

SHINE ON YOU CRAZY DIAMOND A volunteer shines a shoe at the annual Shinerama fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis. The event raised \$10,000 and left a trail of spotless footwear around the city.

Nursing students still concerned

Government's shortage solution declared false by presenters

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

Nurses in their fourth year of studies stood last Thursday on the steps of the legislature to protest what they feel is a de-prioritization of nursing by the provincial government. Quinn Grundy and her peers faced the crowd of fellow nurses and supporters, but made clear their words were meant for ears in the legislature behind them.

"We were shocked and confused when the government declared that the nursing shortage had been resolved," Grundy, a fourth-year nursing student said. "Every day, we worked on units that were always short staffed, saw patients head back to the emergency unit because the intensive care unit was full. Not only is there no shortage, but the government now claims that we actually now have an over-supply."

Spirits weren't hopeful among the speakers, all of whom were nursing students about to complete their degrees. Few felt optimistic that their first job would be in Alberta.

"As the problems continue to get worse, shortages continue to strain existing nurses, and as we know, 50 per cent of the current nursing workforce is going to retire in the next 10 years. Hopefully, they realize they need to change their attitude on nursing," Shannon Harrington, another fourth-year said.

"I would like to work in Alberta when I graduate, but right now it doesn't look like there's enough options for our graduating class."

PLEASE SEE **NURSES** ♦ PAGE 2

September by-election fills vacant seats in GFC, Students' Council



PETE YEE

UNIVERSITY SUFFRAGE Students cast their ballots in the first election of the 2009/10 school year.

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

The polls for the University of Alberta's fall by-election came to a close Friday afternoon, deciding who will join General Faculties Council and Students' Council for the year.

The faculties of Education and Open Studies still have open spots in Students' Council. SU Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood will appoint people, in consultation with faculty associations, to the vacant undergraduate seats on the GFC.

Although the 803 ballots cast account for a less than 2.7 per cent voter turnout, Chief Returning Officer Jennifer Huygen said that she's encouraged by how this election compares to last September's tally of 636.

"I was pleased to see the increase in votes, and that comes despite the fact that it was a smaller by-election than we've had in recent memory," she said.

There were fewer positions to be filled overall, and a greater proportion was available on the GFC. Huygen sees the increased turnout as an indicator of interest in University governance.

"Students' Council is a student-driven organization, whereas GFC is a University-driven organization. It includes faculty, academic staff, etc., so I think an important way students participate is to have their voices heard on GFC to get their

viewpoint across to all the different constituencies on campus," she said. "[Open seats] give that legislative body more of the due-attention that it deserves."

Of note was the number of ballots cast online, a capability that was just added to SU elections a year ago.

"Last year's by-election was the first time online voting went live. We've made a couple of tweaks to the system since then just to make it a little bit more user-friendly," Huygen said. "We did get about 80 per cent of our traffic from people voting off their personal computers or computer labs."

Physical polls were also scattered around campus which serve a purpose other than just allowing people to cast their ballots.

"Having [poll stations] out there is also a good reminder to people that there's an election going on," Huygen explained. "I think the word was spread fairly well this year, and that's only something I hope to grow on for the March election, which is much larger in scope."

Huygen touched on her strategy to increase attention on the spring vote.

"I really hope that for future elections we can focus a bit more on [...] driving up the numbers for candidates to make the elections more hotly contested. That in turn, I think, will drive some of the interest in the elections," she said.

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Starting wheels

Everyone's lined up and ready to roll on their longboards — find out from Sean Steels how you can join in ...

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Finnish line

... And while you can't roll on a Rubik's cube, you can check out the band from Finland with a couple twists

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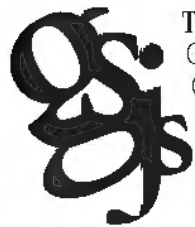
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Bluetooth technology monitors high-risk patients remotely

Devices and software developed in part at the U of A give peace of mind to chronic disease sufferers

PAIGE PARSONS
News Writer

People suffering from chronic conditions such as diabetes and obesity can have a constant eye on their health with recent breakthroughs in monitoring technology.

The launch of several innovative physiological monitoring devices and a clinical software system enable health care professionals to look out for patients who need it most.

Masako Miyazaki, a professor with the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Alberta, has been the principal researcher for this technology since the project first began at the U of A in 2002. Miyazaki emphasized the value of wearable physiological monitors because, during clinical trials with the former Capital Health Region, 90 per cent of patients reported the device gave them peace of mind.

"[Patients] don't care what you put in it. If it works, and makes you safe, that's very important," she said.

Kanata Health Solutions, the company behind the technology, has developed a wide variety of devices; sensor technology enables the monitoring of pulse, blood sugar, temperature, heart rate, and even different types of movement. There's also clinical software, which operates as a monitoring service. It takes information recorded by the devices, and transmits it to qualified health professionals.

The core of this system was created at the U of A. It includes the Wireless Wearable Physiological Monitor and the clinical software. At one point during the development of these primary devices, 23 engineers were engaged in the design. The WWPM consists of a watch that acts as a physiological monitor, and a base station that receives Bluetooth data transmissions.

According to Tom Ogaranko,



PETE YEE

REMOTE CONTROL Wireless physiological monitors are just part of the technological arsenal now available to patients.

president of Kanata Health Solutions Inc., the applications for these devices are quite broad.

"With these different collections of sensors, we can address up to 26 different chronic conditions," he said.

Despite all the impressive technology that has gone into bringing these devices to reality, Ogaranko maintained that the goal is to keep it simple.

"At the end of the day, we want something that feels like it is a part of somebody's lifestyle, not something that makes them feel like they are in a hospital," he explained.

When research for this project began, it was intended that the technology would be used as a tool for geriatric care, but Miyazaki believes the devices can be applied to almost anyone's lifestyle. Parents could monitor their children's wellness; travellers

could have instant access to medical records; and in an epidemic, if an individual showed symptoms that were recorded by the devices, they would be sent a message to stay home and avoid infecting others. Miyazaki suggested that even seemingly healthy university students could benefit from the technology.

"There is a high incidence of cardiac arrhythmia among young adults, and people don't know that. We want to monitor that," she said.

Martin Ferguson-Pell, Dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine at the U of A, lauded the co-operative efforts of the various partners who have, and are continuing to, work hard to get the technologies on the market.

"It's one of the first times I've actually seen this type of teamwork really work; where you've got clinicians,

technologists, industry, and the health system all pulling together to create a solution," he said.

Ferguson-Pell added that although the success of Kanata Health Solutions is exciting, he hopes to see more innovation of the same kind soon.

"This is just the first drips that come out of the pipe. What we need is a flood of stuff like this because we've got a rapidly aging population, we've got a diminishing workforce, and we've also got a health economy that is quite challenged right now," he explained.

Ogaranko outlined other benefits in that these devices could go a long way in alleviating the cost of healthcare.

"80 cents of every dollar we spend on healthcare everywhere in the world relates to medically chronic care. These types of technologies can cut that in half," he said.

Protest held at Legislature

NURSES ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One nurse, expressing her concerns anonymously, felt abandoned, and that she had been lured into the nursing profession with promises of employment from the government.

But despite fear for their own prospects, each presenter, in turn, brought up their fear for what was really at stake in their eyes — the stability of nursing and, consequently, patient care. Alberta's Nursing system is still in its infancy, they claim, from

budget-cut-necessitated restructuring of the '90s.

"We remember the 1990s when Alberta lost over 8000 nurses because of the policies of the Klein government. Alberta has not yet recovered from that and it has created a nursing generation gap. Creating a leadership and mentorship void. What will another round of restructuring bring?" Grundy asked.

"This is not something any of us can afford to lose."



SEAN STEELS

STILL SHORT Nursing student Amy Walczak speaks to a crowd at the Legislature.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Sean Steels and Pete Yee

As you may be aware, the NDP is expected to support the Conservative government during the Liberals' non-confidence motion vote on Thursday.

When's the last time someone didn't co-operate to help you get what you wanted?



Lawrence Schenk
Education III



David Kim
Science II



Amir Mohajery
Science II



Cathy Danilec
Science III

I suppose my brothers, at home, they probably told my parents that I did something bad, told on me, you know.

Last weekend my friend had to drive his sister's friend to the other end of the city, but I wanted him to take me to Whyte Avenue. We just ended up driving around and wasting the whole night.

My parents, obviously. I've been trying to get a car for a couple of days now, but they haven't been co-operating with my needs and wants. It's kept me from getting it.

Probably at work, I'd say. I guess training new people and them not knowing what to do gets in the way of my day.

Research looks to unfold mystery of destructive prions' progress, CWD

KYLE GIBSON
News Staff

The science behind diseases like Mad Cow and Chronic Wasting Disease have puzzled researchers with their inexplicably twisting proteins for years, but research done at the University of Alberta has cast light on their failing folds.

These diseases belong to a group called prion diseases are a group of progressive degenerative conditions relating to the brain and nervous system that are inevitably fatal for affected animals such as deer, elk, and moose. The prevailing theory of disease progression is that an agent known as a prion causes healthy proteins to misfold, causing death in neural cells and formation of plaques resulting in cell damage.

U of A biochemist John Paul Graves has been studying fragments of the prion protein known as "fibrils," in order to better understand transmission of the disease between species. The research focused on a small section of a prion protein containing sequences of amino acids. The main source of fibrils used were from elk and hamsters to determine how readily elk fibrils could be transferred across species.

"In terms of Chronic Wasting Disease, it looks as though hamsters don't seem as susceptible to that form of prion disease. There is some interesting research going on looking at the interplay between the host and transmission to another species," Graves said.

Graves went on to clarify that hamsters may not readily acquire CWD from elk, but it's still possible.



SAM BROOKS

FOLD 'EM Prion diseases have different side effects between various species.

However, when fibrils are transferred through an intermediary species, it appears that it becomes much easier for misfolded fibrils to affect healthy ones in the subject.

"In the case of elk, they were having trouble transmitting it to hamsters which was sort of weird because scrapie, a prion disease found in sheep, can pass readily into hamsters whereas the elk prion disease is more difficult to transfer. They found that if they first infect a ferret with the elk prion, then the hamster readily becomes infected after it has been passed through the ferret," Graves explained.

So far Graves has found a drastic difference in efficiency of fibril misfolding between elk and hamsters. Elk form fibrils readily, and a repeating pattern is found among the majority

of them, whereas hamsters form fibrils slowly and much more irregularly.

The logic behind the experiments being conducted is to work from a smaller section of the prion protein in order to determine its function, and then work up to larger segments of the structure. Graves hopes to eventually gain a full perspective of how the misfolded fibrils cause healthy ones to deform.

"From another angle we're looking at these very small peptides that form fibrils and it's those interactions with these small components that play a role in the larger protein and the disease. If we can get a lot of information about how these interactions take place, we can hopefully disrupt them and prevent this cascade of misfolding," he said.

MacEwan will still work with other colleges



PETE YEE

PROUD PREMIERE Premier Ed Stelmach unveils a plaque commemorating MacEwan's newly recognized university status.

MACEWAN ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"[We plan to] relocate and consolidate the Arts Centre to City Centre, to develop more lab space and increase library holdings," said Stuart Maclean, Director of Facilities at MacEwan.

The idea is to expand the depth of the degrees that it offers currently. These expansions may lead to the development of new programs as well, though this isn't confirmed. Despite growing larger, Grant MacEwan hopes to retain the atmosphere of a smaller institution and smaller class sizes. Grant MacEwan becoming a university also raises questions about how it will associate with other such institutions. From the students' council's perspective, they wish to maintain relationships with the same colleges and associations as before.

"We're not really going to associate with the universities; we're going to remain with the college associations," Holmgren noted on inter-council relations.

MacEwan will remain associated with the Alberta Student Executive Council, a body which represents Alberta's colleges and now the two newest universities, Mount Royal and Grant MacEwan. This is seen as more relevant with what Grant MacEwan is compared to joining CAUS, the Council of Alberta University Students, whose members comprise of the University of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge.

"For the U of A, any changes have already happened, back when [MacEwan] got degree-granting status. Universities offer a certain standard of

education, no matter the experience. Between the two student associations, not much has changed. This is more of a branding thing for them," said Beverly Eastham, SU Vice President (External) and chair of CAUS.

The interests of the larger centres don't represent fully the interests of Grant MacEwan as of this point. "20 to 30 years from now, this could change," said Eastham.

Grant MacEwan's accreditation poses new opportunities for growth, while remaining true to tradition.

"As much as our name is changing, our role will change, our opportunities will change, [yet] we will not forget our history," said Paul Byrne, President and CEO of MacEwan, at the closing of the ceremony.

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Public Interest Alberta takes stock of cuts

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

EDMONTON (CUP) — According to a new Public Interest Alberta advocacy campaign, students face the possibility of increased service costs and decreased quality of education due to potential budget cuts.

This year, the Alberta government is looking to recover around \$40 million from postsecondary funding. Bill Moore-Kilgannon, executive director of Public Interest Alberta, stated that the effects were already visible.

"At the University of Alberta we know that all the different departments were told that they had to find two per cent to cut back," Moore-Kilgannon said.

In response to this, PIA put together a public advocacy campaign entitled "Don't Cut Us Out," targeted at students, faculty, and the public. The main focus of the campaign is to raise awareness by conducting press conferences across the province.

"[The government] can say 'the students are of course going to advocate for postsecondary funding, they have a vested interest in it,' but our campaign and the nature of our organization is to try and get others speaking out on these issues," Moore-Kilgannon said.

Beverly Eastham, SU Vice President (External), commented on the potential changes that students could experience from the cuts.

"The two biggest areas would be professor complement and services," Eastham said. "The government has said [they're] not going to raise tuition, which is good because tuition directly affects students, but everything else does too."

Eastham also said that the SU would work with administration to make sure the most vital services do not get cut.

"Hopefully we can work with the administration to preserve those areas, even if we are asked by the government to find more money," she stated.

Geoffrey Tate, President of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology Students' Association in Edmonton, said that cost-cutting could



SAM BROOKS

FOR THE CAUS Eastham also chairs the Council of Alberta University Students.

be a positive thing for postsecondary institutions in some ways.

"I think these institutions have been operating way outside their means for a few years now. So it's kind of a wake-up call, and these efficiencies need to be found," Tate said.

Moore-Kilgannon agreed, but added that PIA is concerned about larger cuts next year.

"Can things be done more carefully on budget? Absolutely, but when you start cutting huge amounts of money out of postsecondary education you're going to have greatly reduced quality," Moore-Kilgannon said.

Next year, the province is calling for a savings of \$2 billion total for all provincial departments. Rachel Bouska, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology,

stated that regardless of the budget, the government acknowledges the importance of postsecondary education.

"This government is still committed to our postsecondary system and making sure that everyone has access," Bouska said.

However, according to Eastham, access is not the only concern.

"If tuition were untied from the Consumer Price Index, that would be more of an access thing. But right now with the cuts, I think it's definitely a quality issue," Eastham stated.

Eastham believes an increase in postsecondary investment makes sense.

"Students from postsecondaries are going to be the ones who go out into the economy and drive recovery from the recession, and that we will rely upon for the future."

Basic hygiene decreasing: study

Research done at the U of W shows medical staff need to brush up on their hand-washing habits

MICHAEL TELLOS
The Lance

WINDSOR (CUP) — Even though nurses, doctors, and pharmacists consistently remind people about the benefits of hand washing, they may not be practising what they preach.

A recent study conducted by a University of Windsor researcher indicated that healthcare providers might be speaking hypocritically.

Maher El-Masri, a research chair at U of W's nursing faculty, recently collaborated on an observational study with a University of Miami researcher at an oncology unit in Miami, Florida, that revealed some disappointing results.

"If I see blood on my hands, I'm likely to go and wash my hands. If I touch urine, I'm likely to go wash my hands."

MAHER EL-MASRI

U OF W NURSING RESEARCH CHAIR

In his study, which involved three nursing research assistants observing 47 healthcare providers for a total of 612 observations, he found that hand-washing compliance rates were as low as 42 per cent before medical procedures, and 72 per cent after procedures.

Proper compliance, which necessitates washing before and after any medical procedure, only occurred 34 per cent of the time.

According to El-Masri, there are a number of variables involved in this low rate, but ignorance is not one of them.

"Some people think it is due to a lack of knowledge, but the truth of the matter is that healthcare providers know they have to wash their hands.

This is the first thing they learn when they come to medical school, or pharmaceutical school," El-Masri said.

Factors affecting this rate, according to El-Masri, include under-staffing and prioritizing, but also include the invisible nature of micro-organisms.

"If I see blood on my hands, I'm likely to go and wash my hands. If I touch urine, I'm likely to go wash my hands. But if I just move a patient from a chair back to bed, for instance, or I changed the IV bag for the patient, the assumption is that I did not do something that contaminated my hands," he said.

Also affecting the rates of hand washing were the risks involved with the procedure, with healthcare providers much more likely to comply with proper hygiene if conducting a high-risk procedure.

El-Masri further noted the effects that over-washing can have on skin, particularly that of females, who generally have more sensitive skin.

"[Healthcare providers] don't want their hands to dry, and they don't want their hands to crack. And it's known that if you over-wash your hands, they dry, and they don't want to do that," he said.

He noted that manufacturers of hand sanitizer and soap are beginning to address this with their products.

El-Masri has studied predictors of infection in many different ways, but this was the first time that he was able to study hand hygiene as a factor, because it's such a difficult statistic to quantify in a survey.

He admitted that every study could have a limitation or a possible margin of error, but said this was taken into account in his study's adjusted analysis.

Despite the results of this survey, El-Masri noted that handwashing is still the strongest prevention method for disease and infection.

El-Masri added that it's always a safe precaution for students to wash their hands, even if they feel like their hands may be clean.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICERS (2 POSITIONS)

Human Resources | Marketing

The DRO (Human Resources) and DRO (Marketing) report directly to the Chief Returning Officer, and are members of the Elections Committee. Experience with Students' Union elections would be an asset, but is not required if other qualifications can be sufficiently demonstrated. Hours of work are flexible and can be arranged around class schedules, except during the period leading up to the Elections and on voting days.

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Two copywrongs don't make a right

IN A SOMEWHAT SURPRISING MOVE LAST WEEK, Lily Allen came out heavily in support of proposed U.K. anti-file sharing legislation. The “three-strikes” legislation, which would ban copyright infringers from the Internet after three offences, has been called heavy-handed by many, including fellow artists such as Pink Floyd and Radiohead.

Allen believed so heavily in her anti-infringement stance that she created a blog, entitled “It’s Not Alright,” to speak out against file sharing. Featuring posts from musicians on the pro-punishment side of the debate, the blog initially looked somewhat promising, providing a counterpoint to the hordes of pro-file sharing users on the web.

Promising, that is, until she did some unauthorized copying and distribution of her own. Seemingly unaware of the fact that copying text is equivalent to copying music, Allen copy-and-pasted an interview with 50 Cent from popular tech news site *Techdirt*, without attribution. And by without attribution, I mean entirely without attribution — Allen neglected to even put a courtesy link back to the original site, or post the name of the article’s author, or put anything on her blog indicating that she lifted the text wholesale from another source.

Naturally, the Internet erupted with comments on and criticism of Allen’s actions. Bloggers cried foul on her “do as I say, not as I do” attitude, and rightly so. But Allen, instead of gracefully accepting her wrongdoing, posted an all-caps “apology” to her blog, claiming it was “OVIUOUS” [sic] that the words she posted weren’t hers.

However “ovious” it may be, unfortunately, it’s still wrong. If Allen were a U of A student, her plagiarism would have her kicked out for academic dishonesty. At least the file sharers have the dignity to attribute the tracks being passed around the Internet to their original creators.

But it didn’t end there. Eager *Techdirt* readers happened upon some more copyright infringement by Allen. Her website had a multitude of digital mixtapes available for download, with much of the content from artists other than herself, some from artists not even on her recording label — content that she had no right to distribute. If the three-strikes law had been in effect, Allen would’ve been booted off the net a long time ago. Her defence? “I didn’t have a knowledge of the workings of the music industry back then.” Well, Lily, neither do many of the people sharing your tracks over the web, and they’d be punished no matter their excuse.

So what’s the lesson here? While I could go back and forth on the topics of file sharing, the music industry, and copyright, the core issue here is hypocrisy. In a medium where you’re often communicating one-on-one with your audience, transparency is key: the Internet doesn’t allow for someone to do one thing and turn around and say something else. Allen’s actions were wrong, but what’s even worse was the fact that she refused to admit any wrongdoing.

In the end, however, justice (in some form) was done, or at least seen to be done. Citing overwhelming “abuse” from commenters, Allen shut down her blog last Thursday, and deleted all the content from it, pulling the mixtapes from her website as well. Her most recent Twitter update was simply “I am a neo-luddite, goodbye,” so it appears that she’s enacted the controversial three-strikes punishment upon herself, and left the Internet for good. She’s also left the music industry for good — in a recent statement, she said that she has no future plans to record any more albums.

It’s a pity how copyright infringement can hurt musicians.

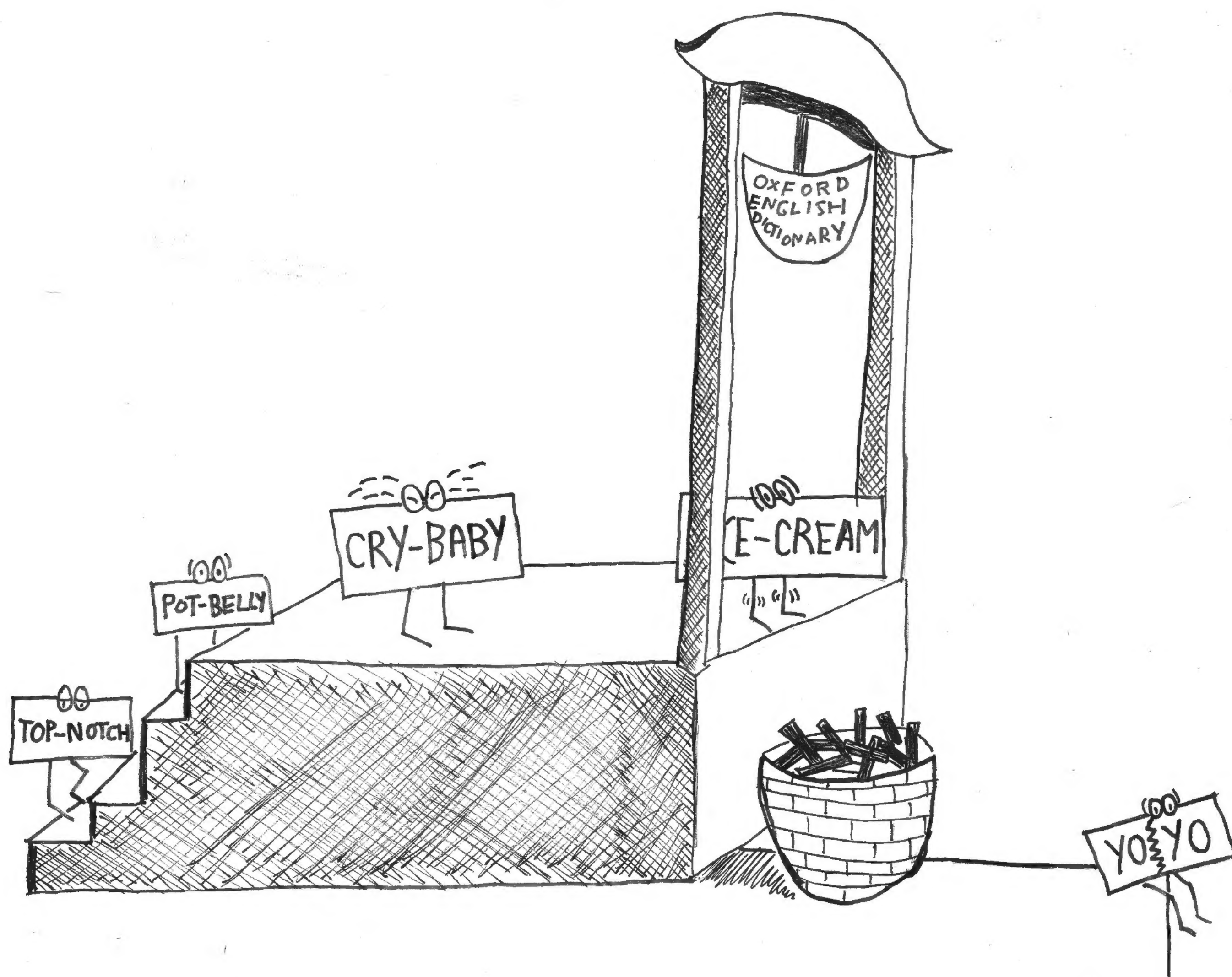
LUCAS WAGNER
Online Editor

Hopes were dashed

Punctuation death!
O.E.D. axes hyphens
What-is-up-with-that?

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

A sad day for the English language



DAVID JOHNSTON

from THE web

Recording potential from the south

RE: *Recording industries lack harmony* (September 24)

Bill C-61 wasn’t a “DMCA Lite.” It contained nearly all the same anti-circumvention provisions as the DMCA, but given Canadian law was already more tilted in favour of copyright holders than U.S. law prior to the DMCA, that would make our laws far more draconian yet again than U.S. law.

It is a total myth that Canadian law is “weak” — the reality is that it is already tilted in favour of incumbent copyright holders. Those like the lobbyists behind the Special 301 report are simply making it up with no evidence to back their claims. Sure, we haven’t ratified the 1996 treaties, but there are other WIPO treaties the U.S. hasn’t ratified, such as the Rome convention. The only reason the U.S. isn’t on the Special 301 watchlist as a priority is because the U.S. Trade Representative itself signs these largely lobbyist written reports.

I would far prefer Canada adopt US Copyright law in its entirety than adopt C-61-style

legislation. At least that way we would have a robust “Fair Use” regime to counterbalance the anti-technology 1996 WIPO treaties. Maybe the most common use of VCRs would finally become legal in Canada — just as people have moved onto newer technology.

RUSSEL MCORMAND
Via Internet

Providing a short answer to a long question

RE: *Multiple choice is ultimately no choice at all* (September 22)

While I remember being a bit intimidated by long-answer questions on my math and science diplomas, it was still much less intimidating than the multiple choice portion; even if you know your stuff, you’re still not sure you pencilled in the right bubble.

Written portions are there for a reason: to allow students to show their mathematical calculations in longhand, and to show that they can articulate their knowledge about a scientific subject in both longhand formulas and short essays. If you can’t construct a scientific hypothesis and back up your ideas, or show that you can use your head to figure out mathematical questions rather than rely on a calculator for help, you’re going to be in big trouble if you want to get a degree in any mathematical or

scientific discipline.

Essay-length argumentation and long-hand answers aren’t just for Arts folks like me.

BETH
Via Internet

Casual reflection

RE: *It’s time for an old-fashioned battle of the (casual) sexes* (September 24)

Hmmm ... this is a very interesting and timely article. I think you’re both right.

As someone who has partaken in casual sexual adventures on a fairly regular basis, I know all too well how therapeutic and fun they can be. Casual sex can release stress, get your heart rate up, and is usually a good time for both people involved, provided that precautionary measures (such as the use of condoms, testing, and a limited number of partners) are adhered to. For someone who’s busy with school or work, and simply doesn’t have the emotional reserves to maintain a relationship, casual sex seems to be the perfect solution.

Unfortunately, at some point this blissful state of utopia breaks down. Humans need love, and are hard-wired genetically to associate sex with love. Somewhere between the friendship and the benefits, one of the parties will begin to want something more than a text at 11:57p.m. looking for a booty call. Casual sex is great, but it can never be

permanent arrangement because emotions simply cannot be shut off (although they can be denied to a point).


SARAH JANE
Via Internet

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RESULTS

The following candidates were elected within their faculties on September 24 and 25.

POSITION	CANDIDATES
Arts (GFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Damini Mohan
Business (GFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Craig TurnerColten Yamagishi
Campus Saint-Jean (SC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Emerson Csorba
Campus Saint-Jean (GFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Andrea Vogel
Education (SC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ngina wa Kaai
Education (GFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ngina wa Kaai
Nursing (SC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Jenna Parsonage
Nursing (GFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alysha PashulkaJacquelin Benito
Science (GFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wei QiangKatie HorvatWilliam Peachman



For more information on SU Elections, please visit
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A few curse words for nurse herds



JONN KMECH

As the saying goes, there are three certainties in life: death, taxes, and the fact that nurses are lazy. Whiners too. And mean. I have known these facts since I was a young lad in short-pants and a cheerful smiling lady in white sat me down, gently rubbed my arm with alcohol, and then proceeded to jab me with a razor-sharp needle until I was hysterical and bawling. I can't recall all the details, but I'm pretty sure she left the needle sticking out of my arm while she proceeded to take her smoke break and complain that she wasn't being paid enough.

But if my memory of my mumps vaccination was taking a trip down Dementia Lane, Stephen Duckett was there to repeatedly remind me about these truths in the past few weeks, along with changing my bedding and bringing me chicken cordon bleu. The President and CEO of Alberta Health Services riled the ire of registered nurses across the province when he finally confronted these confirmed layabouts about their chronically lackadaisical ways. After explaining that nurses in this province are paid way too much, he added that "between 25 per cent and 70 per cent of what a nurse does in a hospital ward could be done by someone else." Best of all, he finally nailed these loafers to the wall in his most publicized comment for working fewer hours and taking

"lunch breaks and morning tea breaks and afternoon tea breaks and coffee breaks and everything else."

I always blindly believed nurses were suspect, what with their fancy white suits and pleasant, unassuming demeanours, but Duckett has offered compelling, insurmountable evidence for their lethargy. The Yanks dumped all that British tea into Boston Harbor for a reason.

You know what would calm those nurses down? A nice hot cup of tea — the exact cup they're no longer allowed to have.

If only these damn chamomile-sipping turncoats would just retract their extended pinky fingers, put down their crumpets, get off their duffs, and start pounding the pavement (or buffered linoleum, as it were), perhaps then, they could actually perform the 30 per cent of the job that janitors, secretaries, and fast-food cooks can't do so that we don't continue wasting taxpayer dollars on something as inconsequential as "caring for the sick and needy." The only people that have a lower efficiency rate than that is our government. To be fair, though, *their* tea breaks are quite modest in comparison and they have to deal with more people soiling their pants. They simply compensate by giving themselves salaries of \$575,000 plus up to 25 per cent bonus — but Duckett's wage sadly doesn't even include a stipend for Earl Grey.

Such comments caused the nurses to get all upset. First, they countered by saying that only 27 per cent of their

tasks could be done by others. Then, The United Nurses of Alberta filed an ethics complaint against Duckett, claiming he was bullying nurses and misleading the public. And lastly, nursing students protested at the Alberta legislature last weekend, claiming that the government of a province chronically short of nurses was forcing graduating students to move elsewhere due to budget cuts

You know what would calm those nurses down? A nice hot cup of tea — the exact cup they're no longer allowed to have. In the meantime, we'll just create a new position and fill it with some of these vague "other people" that Duckett mentions to replace you. Some kind of "caretaker" role where these "other people" would toil for long hours for relatively little pay, doing a necessary job for the well-being of society — despite never being treated with the same level of professionalism or respect as doctors — all while being given bullshit criticism by an Australian economist working at a desk far removed from the ER who sees the position in terms of cost-benefit ratio rather than capacity for human empathy. But who would willingly fill such a thankless position?

Certainly no one under this government. It's a shame, really — there won't be any nurses around to help with all the cranial-rectectomy surgeries that'll be happening once our legislators realize you don't want to irritate the people giving fluids to our broken health care system. They'll all be partaking in chai lattes while our politicians are getting their heads removed from their asses. But don't fret, government officials — the gas jockey helping you in the hospital should insert your catheter in the right location between 25 and 70 per cent of the time.

Nature abhors a vacuum — well, so do I



DAVID JOHNSTON

One of the things about moving out of your hometown is that you can't expect your mother to come over and do your housecleaning every week. Since she can only make the trek out to my place every month, I've been forced recently to step outside my stereotypical gender role and actually learn to clean the house.

It's been surprisingly effective thus far. My furniture is mostly dust-coloured already, so I don't have to be too thorough. I clean the windows anyways, since we have really attractive neighbours. And I have a foolproof system for cleaning the bathroom, called the Yell At Roommate Mike To Clean The Bathroom System. (It's effective, though I wouldn't recommend it for everyone, mostly because Roommate Mike has a limited supply of sponges.)

But one aspect of cleaning has been stymieing me every step of the way: vacuuming. You see, when we signed the lease, our landlord threw in the vacuum cleaner as a bonus. At the time, we didn't know what to think, but like fools, we smiled and nodded and signed more contracts in the same general stupor that lease-ownership tends

to bring.

Ah, the naivety of youth. The situation was never so much "Have a free vacuum!" as it was "This vacuum cleaner is cursed, and you're now the bearers of that curse. Enjoy!" Because, seriously, this is an evil vacuum. If Satan owned a vacuum to suck up the ashes of his incinerated foes, then this would be a serious contender. In fact, I'm pretty sure it's been used for that purpose sometime in the past — one way or another, evil spirits got into the dust canister of this ... *thing*, and no amount of shaking or wiping will dislodge them.

Using the evil vacuum is always an adventure. First I need to wrangle the plug, which was apparently made by Lithuanian assemblymen during a period in Lithuanian history when electricity had not yet been invented and electric plugs were designed from second-hand recollections, into our standard wall socket. This is a task akin to driving a lawn tractor through a series of croquet hoops, albeit slightly more awkward and with a higher chance of major blood loss.

Once the plug is jimmied into the wall, I usually attempt to turn the vacuum on. This doesn't sit well with the evil spirits, who are quite comfortable in their possession of the canister, and do not wish to be sprayed with grit and carpet fuzz in the middle of their afternoon pentagram. "RWROOAR," went the evil spirits — it sounded familiar in a way, like they're clamouring for human flesh. Actually, human flesh does tend to appease them for a little while, so I keep a fresh

supply in the fridge, right next to the yogourt. Don't ask where Roommate Mike's leg went.

This usually buys me a three-minute window wherein I can neatly clean every carpet in the apartment, smiling all the while. And then singing rats pop out of the woodwork to clean the dishes, because this is taking place in a fantasy parallel universe. In reality, the evil vacuum's suction power flip-flops between "gale-force hurricane" and "nervous prostitute" with such wild abandon that it's all I can do to try and keep up. And the cord is approximately the length of a daschund's tail, which necessitates reconnecting the Plug From Hell four feet further down the hall. At which point, the evil spirits start roaring again, and I have to go cut off Roommate Mike's *other* leg, which leaves a blood spatter on the two square feet of carpet I managed to clean. At a certain point, I feel like giving up, and we're both just tired of the whole thing, although at least I still have all my body parts.

I can't purchase another vacuum, partly because I think the evil spirits have a non-compete clause on the place, and partly because I'm dirt-cheap. I'm not cheap enough to live in dirt, however, so I'm currently researching other carpet-cleaning initiatives, from sticky-soled shoes to a small squadron of hungry dogs. When those fail, I'll inevitably turn to the Yell At Roommate Mike To Clean The Carpets System. That'll take awhile, mostly because he's pretty slow-moving on his prosthetic limbs.

Swim club’s ‘racism’ doesn’t hold water



TIM SCHNEIDER

“Swim club president John Duesler said the children in question changed the ‘complexion’ of the swim club. This was immediately jumped on as a racist remark, although he insists that what he meant is that the atmosphere became overly energetic ... the man sounds like he’s guilty of tremendously bad word selection, but not racism.”

Last Tuesday, the Pennsylvania Human Rights Commission came to a conclusion on the case of the Valley Swim Club in Huntingdon, Pa, which was accused of racism after cancelling an agreement with a predominantly ethnic summer camp. Their conclusion? “Probable cause.” This in itself is unremarkable, but the way in which this conclusion came about certainly is.

If you don’t remember, the swim club made international headlines this summer because, after one outing, the club asked the children not to return. Claims of racism started to be thrown about before the kids had time to towel off, and it wasn’t long after that the media gathered together with their torches and went on a good old-fashioned witch hunt. Stories began running with hardly any news at all — little more than hearsay. No one really seemed to have much to say about the story. Perhaps that’s because, for all the media bluster, at its heart, the story is completely absurd. At each step, it seems like common sense has been shouted down by the irrational emotional outrage that only insinuations of racism can provide. Particularly under an African-American president, racism has become a hot-button issue in the United States, and minor indiscretions have the potential to become media spectacle.

Much of the anger about racism in this incident is a result of comments some members of the swim club allegedly made when the children were at the pool. The difficulty with this is that the only witnesses were

the children. As much as I love kids, they aren’t exactly the most reliable source when it comes to providing testimony. I was a child once and I used to be convinced that there were monsters under my bed. I’m not making light of their claims, but an additional source would help in legitimizing these allegations. Furthermore, the comment being primarily thrown around as the cause of this ire is that someone asked why there were so many “black” children at the pool. Out of context, sure, this may be a little off-colour, but in a club of only 155 members with not a single African-American member, wouldn’t anyone wonder where 50 unsupervised children of colour suddenly appeared from?

Perhaps even more troubling is that the behaviour of members, even if considered valid, is being used as a reason to penalize the swim club itself. This too is preposterous, akin to holding the University responsible if one of the students here were to make a racist comment toward a campus visitor.

After the allegations were made, swim club president John Duesler stepped in to handle the situation. At this point, the out-of-control racist fire became a full-blown inferno when he said the children in question changed the “complexion” of the swim club. This was immediately jumped on as a further racist remark, although he insists that what he meant is that the atmosphere became overly energetic and possibly unsafe with that many children around. The man sounds like he’s guilty of tremendously bad word selection, but not necessarily racism.

To recap, the evidence on which the Pennsylvania Human Rights Commission penalized the Swim Club rests on the following pieces of information: they have no paid African-American members and they were advertising to primarily Caucasian populations for membership. Great. What part of that has anything to do with the situation at hand? Furthermore, how is it surprising that in the community of Huntingdon — which is frequently described as primarily Caucasian — the local swim club would be advertising to mostly their target demographics? In reviewing the odd series of events, I can’t help but feel that this bizarre story wouldn’t be more at home in a lost Kafka manuscript than in international headlines, but these sorts of stories are actually becoming uncomfortably commonplace in today’s media.

Perhaps the only person still speaking sense here is the club’s lawyer, who admitted that if the commission had sided with the club, they would have just been coloured with the same racist paintbrush as the club itself. It’s media-driven scenarios like this which demonstrate that American society still has a long way to go in addressing racist allegations in a reasonable and balanced manner. All too often, racial issues can be overrun by emotion and have little to do with the original incident once they are caught up in the media hurricane. These life-altering scenarios should be pursued with only hard facts and reason, but it just doesn’t seem like we’re there yet.

THE MARBLE PEDESTAL

As I was driving through an overpass construction zone on the edge of the city a few days ago, I couldn’t help but notice the large amounts of fields and farmland that have been consumed by this project. Normally, I don’t care much for nature — for a certain period in the summer (August), I didn’t even go outside. But something I care very much about is eating. And drinking. And wearing blended cotton.

All these things are made possible by that most noble profession: the farmer. In recent years, the farmer has been a subject of contempt among his more cosmopolitan brothers, especially the politician and the industrialist. Such an underpaid and undervalued career is plagued with stereotypes of bigotry and hickery, and the noble farmer is seen as a relic of the agrarian past, out of touch with the reality of modern society.

As more and more fields are being turned into cheaply built and hastily assembled suburbs, the fertile soil hidden under imported sod, I can’t help but think of the loss of habitat for the noble farmer. Although the farmers are well compensated (this isn’t Mother Russia), one wonders why they’re such a low priority when they provide for so many of our needs.

Though we may lose ourselves in arcane academia, thinking that our theories, papers and ideas are tremendously important, and the farmer’s profession is tedious and uninspired, this only betrays our own prejudices. I salute your place on the Pedestal, farmers, for you sustain us all.

BRUCE CINNAMON

The Marble Pedestal is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who does something particularly noteworthy and awesome is elevated temporarily to a pedestal of prose and praised. No actual enshrinements are performed.

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TRUCKS, WHEELS & DECKS

Tracking down longboarder Mike Sanders at the downhill slalom course on the edge of Louise McKinney Park an hour earlier was a relief. He hadn't been answering his cell phone, but that wasn't odd — no one could be expected to casually answer a call while flying uphill and downhill through the concrete surf pipe of the River Valley faster than a horse can run.

Written by Sean Steels
Photographed by Pete Yee

Sanders, co-owner of Edmonton longboard store Local 124, was accompanied by Nick and Kevin Breton, members of 124's street team and frequent riding companions. The brothers are U of A students in Science and Engineering, respectively, and they haven't had to come far from campus to reach our destination: a winding bike path beginning on the edge of Saskatchewan Drive and 97 Street, ending at the bottom of the River Valley behind the Equine Centre.

"It can be used for basic travel, but what we do is racing. That sort of scene is all gravity-based," Sanders says. "You're trying to go fast and down something. You're not going off stairs and doing rails or tricks. The tricks are a little more style-oriented — surf, snowboard, that sort of thing. Speed is a huge part. We can go pretty damn fast on these things. Nick here's broken 100 [km/h] a couple of times. I've broken 90. Kevin's hit 95. That would be on a race hill or on a course."

Longboarding has been picking up speed, too, Sanders admits. The annual downhill race sponsored in part by his store has grown by leaps and bounds each year. This past August saw the third year of the competition with over 140 participants, up two-thirds from the previous year, and from around only 60 in the inaugural race.

"It's really taking off with the general populace as far as a way to cruise around like a bicycle. It's easy to store, you don't have to lock it up, it's really

fun, it looks good," he adds.

But the three haven't come here just to look good. We arrive at an eye-catching patch of light through the trees of the River Valley, but the others have stopped for another reason: we've reached a giant, hard-cut S-shape in the trail. Pulling in two sharp, sequential 180-degree turns to drop elevation, the road forms curves that a Ferrari's wheel-base wouldn't even fit on.

The origin of skateboarding is from surfing, explained Sanders. Aside

from the stylistic differences between long- and short-boarding, there are also physical ones. The longer wheel base of the board and bigger wheels allow riders to pass easily over rough terrain, and the inability to jump or "ollie," as one would on a short board, leads to a slalom, carving style.

The great speeds are also a result of this design difference, and are what make the River Valley as valuable real estate to them as to any Edmontonian with a passion for leisure and exercise.

The three begin rolling down the hill steadily, building speed, and cut sharply into the corner. They bring their bodies back into tight, low form and place their padded hands on the ground to lean into the turn. Coming around the corner, though, their speed is too great, and the brothers, jockeying for position, crash into one another and come to a sliding stop across the asphalt and into the foliage. Surprisingly, the two quickly spring up, laughing.

"I've fallen at 80 before and gotten up and been fine. We wear anything from this kind of padding to full leather outfits — motorcycle leather," Nick says, pointing to his fully padded arms and legs. "Knowing how to fall can allow you to fall

at ridiculous speeds and get up and get back on."

But the combination of speed and hairpin turns still makes the sport undeniably dangerous to those that choose to pursue it to the lengths of 124's team. Nick lifts his chin to show a still-red swatch.

"And that's just the bit you could see," Sanders chuckles.

"There was a ditch with a hard edge at the bottom. I hit that and my hand buckled. It took about a month to heal. My thumb ended up getting broken and I had to get it pinned. It's not really a typical longboard fall — more bad luck than anything. Without my gear, I would be a corpse."

"If people refuse to wear the padding, which a lot of people still

do, they usually refuse to wear it until their first wipe out," Sanders adds.

"Or until their first shower after getting road rash," Kevin finishes.

Not to let their only run of the day be a fall, they begin ascending the hill again.

"It's not like we do this without brakes," Nick says. "We have brakes with the wheels themselves." He pushes off on his board and then gets low, palming the pavement and sliding his wheels sideways like a snowboard, coming to a stop in a second.

"The easiest way is to brake with your foot, but that's hard on the shoe budget," Sanders added, sliding his foot against the concrete to bring himself to a stop.

Between an increase in the sports profile around the city and in the amount of safety-conscious riders, one might assume that the sport has achieved a certain level of legitimacy not enjoyed by standard skateboarders until decades after the popularization of their sport.

Still, like its short-board predecessor, longboarding has maintained a certain outlaw aspect in the public eye that even a fully

padded, smiling, and respectably adult-looking Sanders admits to encountering. Although, even he confesses to taking the occasional run off the marked trail on a careless morning.

"Skateboarding of all types has always been a little bit underground. That's the way it should be, and most attempts to bring it out of that have failed. Skaters will always find a way to do it and a way we want to do it,"

he says, while adding that mutual respect among riders of all kinds was the obvious way for everyone to stay satisfied.

"We don't need longboarders being jerks to bikers and joggers on the trails. Edmonton, apart from its River Valley, is a very flat place. All you have to do is stay to the right, wear a helmet, share the trail. And if someone cuts you off, be nice, let it slide."



Speed on over to thegatewayonline.ca for exclusive longboarding photo and video from the making of this action-packed feature.



WET suffers rushed development, repetitive gameplay

gamereview

WET

Published by Bethesda Softworks
Developed by Artificial Mind and Movement
Now Available on Xbox 360 and PS3

IAN PHILLIPCHUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Playing *WET*, the latest game from developer Artificial Mind and Movement, is an incredibly frustrating experience, not because the game is bad, but because it fails to be good. The incredible style, substance, and thematic flair the game exhibits are crippled by underdeveloped gameplay and repetition. Simply put, the first 10 minutes of *WET* are as close to absolute gaming and stylistic nirvana as is possible, and from there the game fails to build upon this early success into a game worth playing.

Gamers take control of Rubi, the leather-wearing, alcohol-swigging, monkey-collecting, firearm-wielding gun for hire. The story starts with a failed transaction that quickly turns into a bloodbath, and sees Rubi pursuing a mysterious case. From there, she quickly delves into a complex plot involving a shadowy criminal overlord and his son. The story moves slowly, and is more window-dressing than actual motivation, but a very good voice cast manages to work with what they're given and make it interesting. Once the mystery unfolds — and it doesn't take long — the story loses some of its draw.

The real main character here is the style, which for once is the real substance. A thrashing soundtrack of punk and rockabilly blares from the speakers as the player easily pilots Rubi through a landscape of ramps, bars, jumps, and ledges. Start firing while performing acrobatics and the game will slow down time, handling auto-targeting for the weapon in Rubi's off hand, and generally make you feel



like a badass while dispatching scads of enemies in a fraction of a second. Blood showers the screen as you flip, twist, slide, and wall-run around enemies, making combat a very satisfying experience.

The whole of the trouser-tightening action is framed by crisp, clear graphics — although, you wouldn't know it by watching the screen. Film scratches, and occasional frame jiggling makes you feel as if you're playing a classic pulp film at a drive-in theatre. This is further emphasized by the overly flashy and outrageous characters and the fact that the developers expect you to find little cymbal-beating monkeys for extra points and achievements.

The entirety of the game is crafted with a loving touch to appeal to pulp fans, and it does so perfectly — from the old '50s movie advertisement loading screens, to the sequences when Rubi's face gets coated in blood and she unleashes a combination of *Rambo* and *Sin City* on everyone in sight, to the incredibly garish gold-hilted katana she uses to dispatch enemies that get too close, to the menu screens which involve monkeys being held up by nasty people wielding big guns.

The crying shame, and the failure of the game, is that the rest of the game is not treated with the same love and respect. The acrobatic time-slowness and shooting gameplay is novel

and unique for the first 10 or 20 minutes, but quickly becomes stale and repetitive. *WET* is just a game that doesn't stay fun for more than a quick play through. The first time you run up a wall and put 20 bullets through the face of the club-wielding redshirt is thrilling and exhilarating, but by the 20th or 30th time, it becomes stale to the point of being painful.

If *WET* was given more money, time, or developer attention, you'd be reading more expressions like "masterpiece," "Game of the Year," or "Holy fuck, did you see what I just did?" Instead, the only fitting things to say are "disappointing," "heartbreaking," and "not very good."



Stratovarius survives loss of frontman

musicpreview

Stratovarius

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JON GRIER
Arts & Entertainment Writer

A household name in European power metal, Stratovarius was nearly torn apart early last year in the midst of fighting between former frontman Timo Tolkki and the rest of the band. A much-publicized exchange between Tolkki and the group led to his total disassociation with the band and all future endeavours. This led to the question of whether or not Stratovarius and their new album *Polaris* would be the same without its longtime creative architect.

"When a guy like [Tolkki] goes away from the band, of course there are certain changes," drummer Jörg Michael explains. "And all of a sudden you have a band without a band leader."

"We tried to compensate for this in the way that the responsibility is lying on all shoulders now. It's more like a normal democracy kind of thing. Though it's sometimes a little bit frustrating and annoying because

decisions are made very, very slowly with a lot of discussions and a lot of talking."

But the bottom line is that *Polaris* isn't the sign of any change in direction for Stratovarius. After finding new lead guitarist Matias Kupiainen, the band spent two weeks in seclusion putting their latest record together.

"When a guy like [Tolkki] goes away from the band, of course there are certain changes. And all of a sudden you have a band without a band leader."

JÖRG MICHAEL
DRUMMER, STRATOVARIUS

"In general, the whole life of the album is a little more old-school Stratovarius, like maybe end-of-'90s kind of days. It was not that we tried to reinvent the name of Stratovarius. We're just like fans of our own band, and so we made that kind of Stratovarius music," Michael clarifies, citing *Polaris*'s first single "Deep Unknown" as the best representative

of the group's direction as it is now.

Written by Kupiainen, the song embodies much of what Stratovarius came to be known for, along with a bit more in the way of progressive elements.

In the thick of the band's world tour, Michael looks forward to touring in Canada and partaking in numerous bottles of Molson Ice after a long absence from its home. Between Canada and the United States, there are more tour stops north of the border this time around.

"In general, I think we have more fans in Canada than we have in the U.S.," Michael accounts. "I mean, we are Europeans. We know the drastic difference between the U.S. and Canada. I have the feeling that Canada has much more of a European touch. Whereas America is, like, completely away — like its own planet, really."

With high hopes for the new album and the world under the band's feet, Michael hopes fans will support Stratovarius and carry on with its music.

"For us it's like a great opportunity to play in [Canadian] cities again, like, Edmonton and Calgary, and all these places. So with every action on the new album, it's actually very nice. We're very happy we can present the new album under the name of Stratovarius and continue our history."

COMING RIGHT UP...



Wednesday, Sept 30: **ARTERY Acoustic Showcase:**
Emily Fennell from Kingston, ON. Doors 8pm, No Cover

Thursday, October 1: **People's Poets presents:**
Pump your Fist, Rap and Resist!
Doors 7pm, \$10 www.peoplespoets.ca

Friday, October 2
"National" CD Release Party
with Guests "E4E". Doors 8pm, \$8

Saturday, October 3
CJSR FunDrive Wrap Up Party: 25 Years of CJSR!
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Gabriela Montero

performs Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2



September 30, 2009 Winspear Centre
with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
After intermission: solo recital of piano improvisations

"When improvising," Gabriela says, "I connect with my audience in a completely unique way - and they connect with me." Gabriela recently performed with Yo-Yo Ma and Itzhak Perlman at the inauguration ceremony for President Barack Obama.

Tickets at EdmontonSymphony.com or 780-428-1414

From McLean tour to telling their own stories

musicpreview

Dala

With Deon Blyan
Thursday, October 1 at 8 p.m.
Myer Horowitz Theatre
\$15 at ticketmaster.ca

JANNA YING DENG
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Since their formation seven years ago, a lot has happened to the melodic pop duo known as Dala, yet Sheila Carabine remains as modestly buoyant now as when she first met future bandmate Amanda Walther in a high-school band class.

"The whole experience with Dala has been a very natural progression — I've grown with it, definitely," says Carabine. "We've been singing together for seven years and travelled a lot. I cherish every experience I've had with Dala and I've had a lot of personal growth with it."

For Carabine, the inspiration behind the intertwining harmonies that have become synonymous with Dala's music comes from simply learning to take joy in her surroundings.

"I am inspired right now," says Carabine. "Amanda and I are sitting in a restaurant, listening to the Village People. Amanda and I are best friends and easily in awe of the things around us. I think that is where we draw on our inspiration, from the things we know."

Among the things Dala knows and has learned would be the experiences they share with fellow performers, such as Stuart McLean. McLean not only shared the stage with Dala during his tour last winter, but also encouraged the pair to pursue a musical career. During a chance encounter, Carabine poignantly



recalls the band's first time meeting McLean.

"The story goes — and it's a true story — that we were busking in downtown Toronto near the MuchMusic building and he rode by on his bicycle. He stopped back and threw some change into our guitar case and we kind of struck up a conversation. A couple years later we were touring with him, so it was a very serendipitous meeting."

While McLean is only one of many talented people the band has toured with, in addition to Tom Cochrane and Matthew Good, his influence proved fortuitous on many grounds.

"Stuart McLean kind of defined our 2008. We did three major national tours with him and he was just incredible, so gracious and generous to us — it was an amazing experience," Carabine recalls fondly.

But, as any musician can attest to, tours can be stressful and atypical in many ways. Carabine and Walther have been working and travelling together for years, but luckily for

them, friendship has been the centre of their association. The pair built a friendship for years before considering composing music together, and this enabled Dala to avoid many of the burdens and challenges of travelling in close proximity with each other.

"I think for anyone that has ever travelled extensively with one person — just backpacking across Europe, or in a line of work — you get to a point where, if it's a close friend, you don't even need to speak for hours. Just being around each other is so comfortable, and we have that kind of relationship. We are just extensions of the other person. She's a limb," says Carabine.

This sentiment and the closeness between the pair is clear on their new album, *Everyone is Someone*. Tunes like "Alive" and "Levi Blues" weave their two voices effortlessly. Dala modestly enter the mind and heart, but leave a permanent impression — much like the music they write.

Bruce Willis can't relive *Die Hard* glory

filmreview

Surrogates

Directed by Jonathan Mostow
Starring Bruce Willis, Radha Mitchell, Rosamund Pike, Boris Kodjoe, James Francis Ginty, Michael Cudlitz, James Cromwell, and Ving Rhames
Now Playing

IAN PHILLIPCHUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

No matter how hard it tries, *Surrogates* just can't be *Blade Runner* — but Ridley Scott's masterpiece has its fingerprints all over the latest film from Jonathon Mostow. The trailers try to claim that *Surrogates* is a sci-fi masterpiece with questions of identity on the same scale as *Blade Runner*, but it ultimately falls short of such lofty praise.

Bruce Willis plays Tom Greer, an FBI agent with a luscious blond head of hair and perfect skin, as well as an aging, somewhat overweight old man who pilots a silicon and plastic shell from the world's scariest Lazyboy. A quick montage of news reports tells the story of surrogates, or "Surries" — recreations of human beings inhabited mentally by their controllers that are faster, stronger, more efficient and have a creepy sort of perfection to them. Greer must uncover a vast conspiracy of hatred, prejudice, and exploding eyeballs to save the world.

Things are complicated by Greer's

personal feelings towards the creepy robots. Through his relationship with his estranged wife, declaring that her Surrie isn't her, it's clear that he views Surries as isolationist and inhuman. This is all complicated by a mysterious figure referred to only as The Prophet, who encourages violence and resistance against the replacements, and leads of a vocal minority that eschews the perfection offered by sinister corporation VSI holdings.

The major flaw with *Surrogates* is that the movie is relentlessly watchable. It won't offend you in any way, shape, or form.

It's a surprisingly tight story, and for the most part, it holds up for the entirety of the movie and proves entertaining throughout, yet it feels like something is lacking. Life imitates art, and Willis' performance as Greer is a symbol of everything that's wrong with the movie.

He's artificial and unsettling when inhabiting a robot body, but not enough to elicit a significant emotional reaction. As a human, he's a whining bag of feelings with no real underlying significance to his character other than the fact that we're obviously supposed to empathize with him. It's very ironic that everything seems far too artificial, especially considering the subject matter.

The major flaw with *Surrogates* is that the movie is relentlessly watchable. It won't offend you in any way, shape, or form. The dialogue delivered by the actors from the metal skulls of Surries sounds artificial and contrived, and the emotional meat bags deliver clichés and emotional platitudes, but it just doesn't stand out. The action is quick and efficient in delivering the point that Surries are better in every way than humans as they leap cars and run impossibly fast. But somehow it never really comes together.

Surrogates is a contradiction in that everything they try to do ends up failing them, but the things that they don't micromanage and run through the grinder wind up being really solid. It turns out that *Surrogates* is much better as a detective-style movie, eschewing the lofty ideals of the questions of what it means to be human for watching Greer do some old fashioned police work. The twisting storylines are better handled by a character that resembles the pudgy, beaten up Bruce Willis from the *Die Hard* series than the introspective Harrison Ford from *Blade Runner*.

When all is said and done, *Surrogates* is not a bad movie — it's just misplaced. It's been filed by inattentive or star-struck producers and advertising executives in the sci-fi drawer, when it fits much better in the dark realm of private eyes and detectives. As long as you don't go into the movies expecting to see Han Solo, you can settle with John McClane and be happy with it.

Rubik a puzzling Finnish anomaly



musicpreview

Rubik

With The Ghost is Dancing
Thursday, October 1 at 9 p.m.
Brixx Bar & Grill (10030-102 St.)
\$12 at the door

NAOMI WILLIAMS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

This may sound alarming, but Finnish indie-rock band Rubik has solved the eponymous Hungarian-invented “Magic Cube” with music. The band fuses rock and jazz, plugged-in guitars and horns, and moves the listener through a journey of symmetrically coloured sides at one moment, to a mess of scattered, multi-coloured sides the very next. The group comprises a loose collective that fluctuates from between four to eight members, but in the end, solving puzzles is merely one stop along this band’s journey of life and music.

“I don’t know who is in the band and who isn’t,” says Artturi Taira, Rubik’s singer, guitarist, and keyboardist. “If they can make [the show], they just show up.”

Taira, the frontman of the English-singing rock band, explains that his band Rubik abides as something of an anomaly in the Finland music scene.

“We are not a popular band here

in Finland. The heavy metal scene is really going and does quite well, as well as the music sung in Finnish,” Taira says. “We’re not part either of these genres.”

But as all things good and holy, there exists a time in Finland where all these different styles of music are brought together with a common thread.

“I don’t know who is in the band and who isn’t. If they can make [the show] they just show up.”

ARTTURI TAIRA
SINGER, GUITARIST AND KEYBOARDIST,
RUBIK

“This is the promised land of summer festivals. Those are gatherings of all people in Finland. There are metal fans [and] there are 12-year-old emo girls who sing the same song together. It’s a bit absurd, but it’s nice,” Taira concludes with a laugh.

The band’s second full-length record, *Dada Bandits*, finished 13th on the official Finnish charts in April 2009, something Taira proudly attributes to a loyal fan base, despite the fact they’re outside of the realm of typical Finnish music.

“When the records come out, everyone goes and gets it in the first two to three weeks,” he says.

Taira remains modest, even as *Dada Bandits* has had acclaimed reviews in popular American magazines such as *Rolling Stone*, *Spin*, and *Modern Drummer*. He’s moved beyond judging his band’s worth based on music reviews, good or bad.

“Nowadays, I try to understand the perspective of the artist and why he or she has written in the way they have,” Taira phrases with certainty. “The album is ready and it’s out. It doesn’t matter that much anymore. I don’t go out for magazines to search for record reviews.”

Making music for Taira has become a fluid, moving journey that’s intertwined to his everyday existence. Music and life have joined forces, and as Rubik embarks on a North American tour, the band is prepared to encounter mystified wandering, ebb and flow, ying and yang, and the ups and downs of everyday life that inspire the music they are creating.

“The things that happen in real life, and the way we see our normal lives are probably the ground stones of making music,” says Taira. “It is inescapable in a way. You are part of this never-ending cycle and this reality [...] But, then again, the world can be a pretty beautiful place. And you just try to jump in and swim along, it’s a stream, and then trying to put something in the words, and sometimes it works out better and sometimes there are things that are unexplainable and they are not transferable to other people.”

novelty wears off.

Ultimately, the album lives up to its name — it’s one-dimensional and has an incomplete, monochromatic feeling. With such gems as “Eat Flesh” and “Death+”, *Get Color* admittedly appeals to a niche audience. Its discordant sound often feels more chaotic than deliberately experimental.

That said, there is a time for the strong, arrhythmic, and sometimes psychotic beat. This music belongs in clubs, to be played as loud as possible as if to drown out that sober voice of reason’s protests as to who exactly you’re grinding on.

And though it may not win over any Regina Spektor or Damien Rice fans, *Get Color* will certainly serve as the background noise to many drunken escapades.

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Human Rights Education Project,
Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre
- **JANET MCCREADY**
Peacock Linder & Halt LLP (Counsel for the
Canadian Civil Liberties Association)
- **PATRICK NUGENT**
Chivers Carpenter Lawyers
(Counsel for Dr. Darren Lund)
- **PATRICIA PARADIS**
Paradis & Associates

Thursday, October 1, 2009
5:00-6:30 p.m.
231/237 Law Centre
University of Alberta

This event is free and open to the public.

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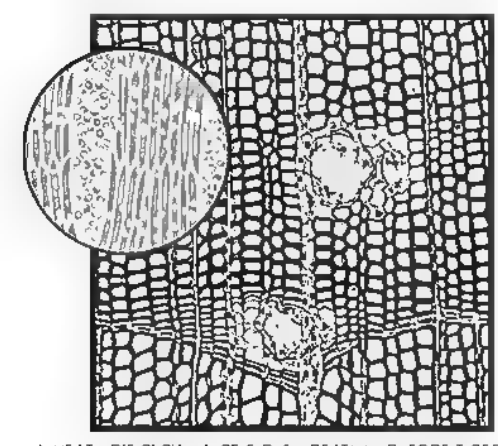
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STUDENT RECEIVABLES
Financial Services, 3rd Floor Administration Building

GET COLOR



HEALTH: DIE HARD, NICE GIRLS, DEATH, B FORTY DEER, SEVEN, EAT FLESH, HEARE AFTER, IN-VOLUT

albumreview

Health

Get Color
Lovepump United

BRUCE CINNAMON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

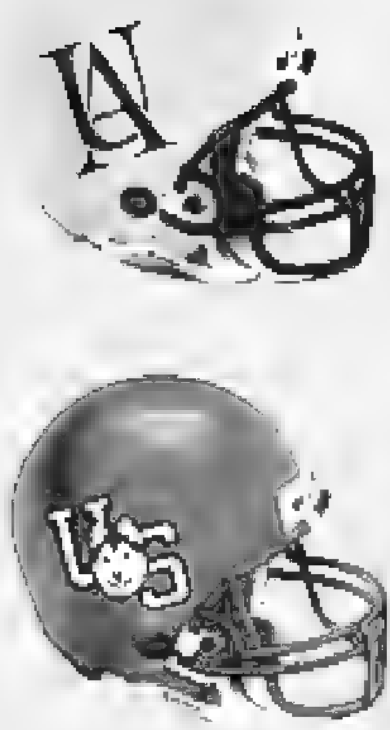
While indie music explodes across the continent, Health avoids the lulling tones and melancholy lyrics of their contemporaries on their second album. The self-described “new frontier in noise rock,” the album’s sound is an eclectic mix of electronica, house music, and metal.

Get Color is like fireworks: essentially, a sustained series of sonic

booms that rip through the air and insist upon a massive scale to be truly appreciated. True, Health aren’t poetic when it comes to lyrics (which are largely unintelligible when present), but this is music to be felt as much as heard — vibrating through your teeth and echoing off your walls. But, like fireworks, *Get Color* can only milk so many “oohs” and “ahhs” before the

BEARS
FOOTBALL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25



27
7

SCORE BY QUARTER

Alberta	7	3	10	7	27
Saskatchewan	1	6	0	0	7

HEAD-TO-HEAD

	AB	SK
First Downs	20	20
Rushing Yards	138	33
Passing Yards	204	333
Total Offence	342	366
Penalties - Yards	11-98	9-111
Time of Possession	30:08	29:52



ALBERTA STATS

Rushing	Carries	Yards	TD
COZZY, Tendency	23	115	2
Passing	Att-Cmp-Int		TD
ARMSTRONG, Quade	23-12-2		1
MARCHAND, Julian	5-3-1		0

Receiving	No.	Yards	Long
WASYLYNIUK, Mike	4	89	42
ROGERS, Laine	3	44	20



SASKATCHEWAN
STATS

Rushing	Carries	Yards	TD
BOLEN, Garrett	6	33	1
Passing	Att-Cmp-Int		TD
NIXON, Laurence	41-24-3		0
BARSS, Trevor	3-2-1		0

Receiving	No.	Yards	Long
GORSKI, Travis	11	129	29
DUECK, Shayne	4	45	16



Canada West Standings

	G	W	L	Pt
Calgary	4	3	1	6
Saskatchewan	3	2	1	4
Alberta	4	2	2	4
SFU	4	2	2	4
Regina	4	2	2	4
Manitoba	3	1	2	2
UBC	4	1	3	2



SAM BROOKS

Bears knock off number-three Huskies

For the second straight week in a row, the Bears football team takes down a top-10 opponent

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

It was a win that was almost five years in the making, as the Bears football team defeated the third-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies by a score of 27-7 Friday night at Foote Field. It was the Green and Gold's first win over the Huskies since October 23, 2004, and only the team's fourth win over their Saskatchewan rivals in the past decade.

For the second week in a row, Alberta took down a ranked opponent after beating the then number-seven ranked Simon Fraser Clan. The Bears have now evened their record at 2-2 in the extremely competitive Canada West.

The Bears took a 10-7 lead into halftime, and despite giving up a late touchdown to Saskatchewan in the first half, Alberta was able to re-establish momentum in the last two quarters, dominating the Huskies by scoring 17 unanswered points.

As big as the victory was for the team, it was that much sweeter for fourth-year receiver Mike Wasyluniuk, who spent the 2004 and 2005 seasons with the Huskies. A native of Katepwa

Lake, Saskatchewan, Wasyluniuk continued his strong play of late, scoring his team-leading third touchdown of the season early in the third quarter, which put the Bears up 17-7.

"The feeling is undescrivable right now," Wasyluniuk said after the game. "This is the reason why I came to Alberta. I came here to beat Saskatchewan and help this team. This feels great."

Despite narrowly losing their first two games of the season, the win over Saskatchewan now puts the Bears in an excellent position to take a run at a postseason berth — something the team hasn't accomplished since 2005.

"Our team was pretty down after losing those two games to Calgary and UBC by a total of four points," Wasyluniuk explained. "We knew we still had a good team — we were in those games until the end."

It was tough sledding all night long for the Huskies offence, as quarterback Laurence Nixon and the rest of the Dogs had their worst offensive output of the season. Nixon was out of rhythm all night long and sailed three passes into the hands of Bears defenders for interceptions, while backup quarterback Trevor Barss also threw

an interception.

Defensive back Jason Hetherington, a native of Saskatchewan, hauled in three of the Huskies' errant passes and was the first Bear to record three interceptions in a game since Jay Milne accomplished the feat back in 2002 against UBC.

"I like playing U of S — I had two [interceptions] last year [against them], so I'm having a good time playing these guys," Hetherington remarked.

After struggling all season long against the run, the Bears managed to hold the Dogs to only 33 yards rushing. Fifth-year running back and former Scona High School standout Taylor O'Gorman was quiet in front of his hometown crowd, mustering a measly 10 yards.

"We wanted to make sure that we took it as a team challenge to defend the run," Bears head coach Jerry Friesen explained.

With the win, Alberta finds itself in a four-way tie for second place in the conference with SFU, Regina, and Saskatchewan, while the Huskies have a game in hand. The Bears will look to continue their winning ways next weekend as they make the trek to Winnipeg to take on the Manitoba Bisons.



SAM BROOKS

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Jason Hetherington saved his best performance of the season for the Saskatchewan Huskies on Friday night, wreaking havoc in the secondary securing three interceptions — two off of starting quarterback Laurence Nixon, and another off Trevor Barss who also couldn't avoid being picked off by Hetherington.

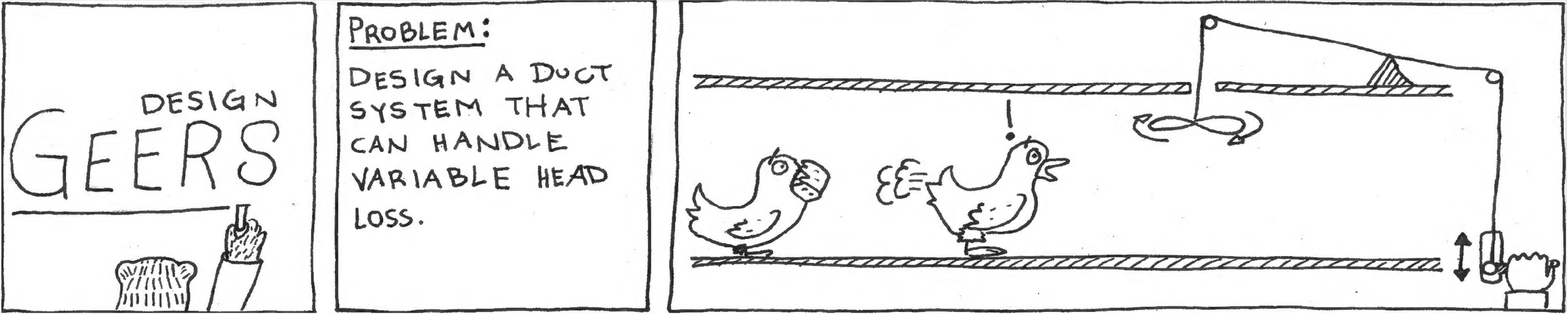
Hetherington, who had two interceptions all of last year, is third on the team in tackles this season with 22, and leads the

conference in interceptions with four.

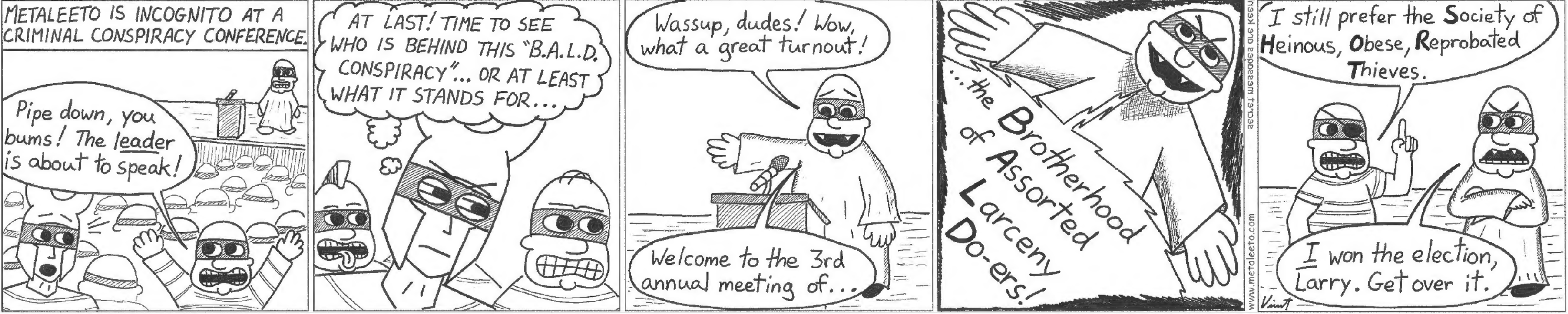
The Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan native spent two years attending the University of Saskatchewan while he played with the Saskatoon Hilltops of the Prairie Football Conference.

After an impressive rookie campaign last season, which saw Hetherington lead the team in tackles with 52.5, the 6-2 defensive back continues to show why he's one of the Bears top defensive threats four games into the season.

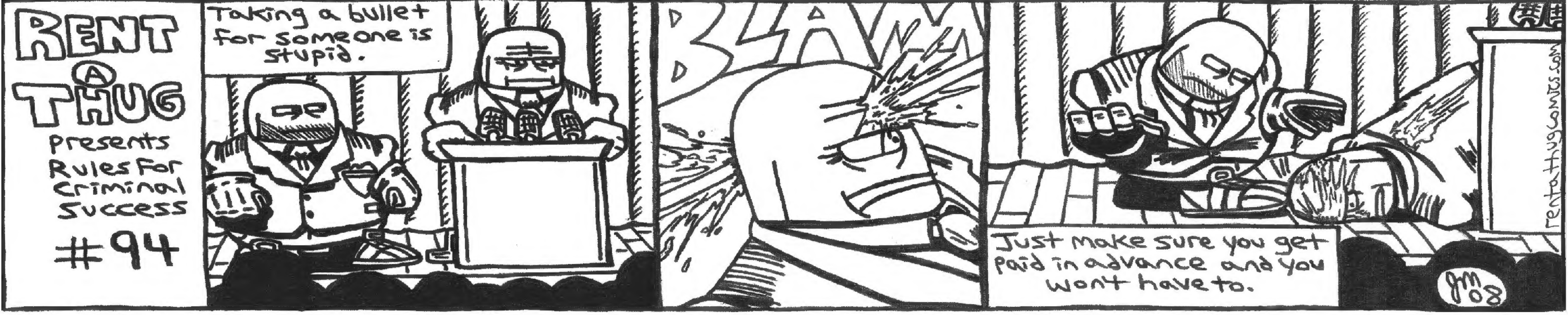
GEERS by Jackie Powell and Jordan Larson



METALEETO by Ross Vincent



RENT-A-THUG by Jeff Martin



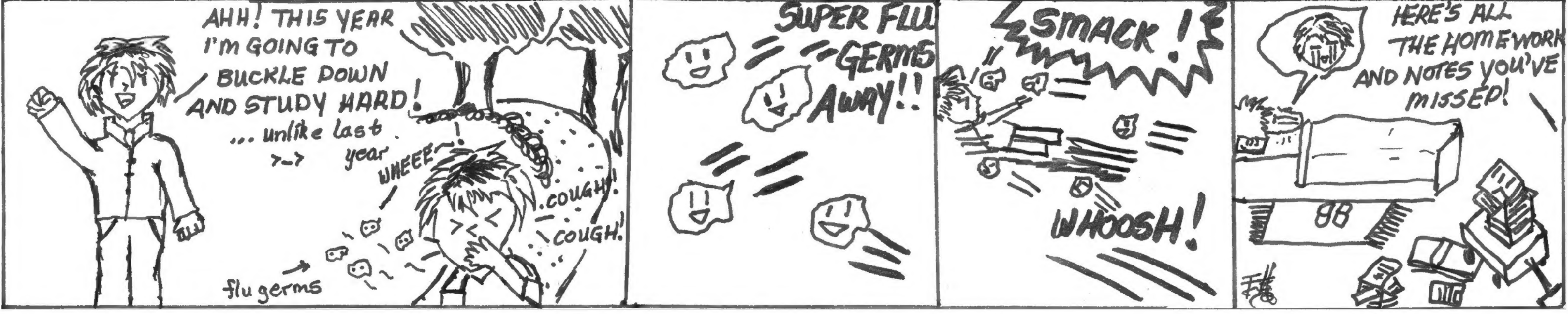
AWESOME THEORY by Benjamin Nay



GETTIN' LARRY by Bobby Williamson



BIRD BRAINZ by Angela Cheung



crossword

Veg-word

by David Johnston

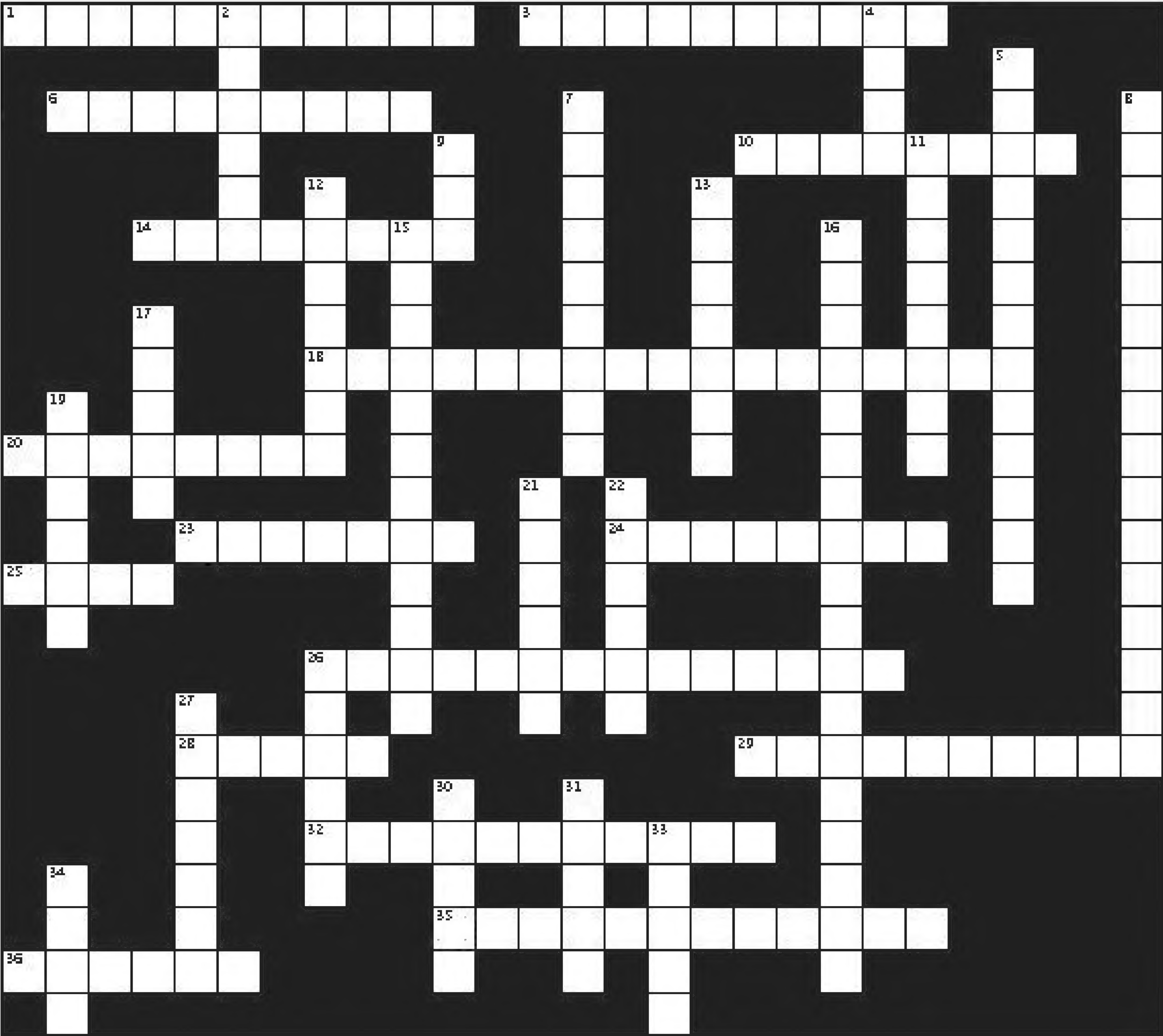
The Crossword runs most Tuesdays with the answer available at thegatewayonline.ca

Across

- 1. Albino broccoli, essentially
- 3. "Green tomatoes," not to be confused with tomatoes that are green
- 6. Colloquially called "sparrow grass"
- 10. The first-named veggie in Frank Zappa's "Call Any Vegetable"
- 14. Reddish urine from eating beets is also known as this funny-named condition
- 18. James Bond movie dedicated to Albert R. Broccoli
- 20. Night of the Radishes is a holiday celebrated in Oaxaca, Mexico on the 23rd of this month
- 23. Mathematical game involving the joining of dots and lines
- 24. Girlfriend of 22 Down
- 25. Pepper or clapper
- 26. Onion-eating protagonist of a Louis Sachar novel
- 28. Sole believer in The Great Pumpkin
- 29. The voice of Mr. Potato Head in Toy Story
- 32. Slug-like echinoderm of the ocean
- 35. Their song 1967 "Vegetables" included chewed celery as percussion
- 36. Rowan Atkinson's lovable idiot

Down

- 2. Female Black Eyed Pea
- 4. It's known as "gumbo" in the Caribbean
- 5. Psilocybin — also, wrong Kingdom, but still veggie-ish
- 7. Avocado-based chip dip
- 8. 1992 U.S. Olympic mascots who were real dolls
- 9. Their "Project Artichoke" studied the effects of prolonged interrogation
- 11. Turnip-obsessed Blackadder



- cohort
- 12. One of its outer satellites is named "Kale"
- 13. Lettuce variety that sinks ships
- 15. Popular saying of 22 Down
- 16. His poem "The Lady of Shallot" is

- not a misspelled ode to a root veggie saleswoman
- 17. Country in U.K. who use a leek as a national symbol
- 19. The novel "Zucchini" was about a boy and this species of rodent

- 21. Chicory root is an effective low-cost substitution for this beverage
- 22. Spinach-eating sailor
- 26. Handball variation
- 27. Carl Dean Switzer's Our Gang member

- 30. Thompson. Also known as Carrot Top
- 31. Garlic is divided into these clusters
- 33. Colour of the Parsnip Swallowtail
- 34. Foot callus

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see
SCHOOL OF ENERGY
& THE ENVIRONMENT

The School of Energy and the Environment (SEE)

invites you to attend the third presentation in our "SEE the research at work" seminar series:
Risk, Performance and Uncertainty in the Geological Storage of CO2.

Dr. Rick Chalaturnyk, Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

The risks associated with the geological storage of CO2 are a key factor affecting the implementation of carbon capture and storage. A better understanding and quantification of these risks associated with CO2 storage in underground formations meets acceptable safety standards. Substantial research is currently underway worldwide on risk assessment methodologies for the geological storage of CO2. There is however, some confusion regarding the definition of risk assessment, performance assessment and uncertainty assessment in these applications. Understanding how these terms are being applied to geological storage projects will ensure a minimum of confusion will arise when large scale demonstration projects undergo regulatory and international review.

Date: Thursday, October 1st, 2009
Time: 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
Location: Stollery Executive Development Centre, Room 5-04, Business Building, University of Alberta
Registration: Please RSVP by Thursday, September 24th, 2009 online at <http://www.see.ualberta.ca>

Questions? School of Energy and the Environment (SEE): uasee@ualberta.ca



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